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Letter dated 18 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

In accordance with Article 97 of the Charter of the United Nations and the joint letter of the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council dated 15 December 2015, I have the honour to present the candidature of Ambassador Natalia Gherman, who held the position of First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova, for the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations.

I include herewith a letter from the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova, Pavel Filip, initiating the nomination, as well as the curriculum vitae of Ms. Gherman (see annex).

(*Signed*) Vlad **Lupan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 18 February 2016 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova to the United Nations addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

Letter dated 18 February 2016 from the Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

The Government of the Republic of Moldova has the honour to nominate Ambassador Natalia Gherman for the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations. Ms. Gherman is a prominent diplomat whose leadership and merits are recognized and appreciated in her own country and internationally. Her curriculum vitae is attached hereto (see enclosure).

Ambassador Gherman held various top positions in the Government of the Republic of Moldova, including Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Acting Prime Minister and Member of Parliament of the Republic of Moldova. She represented her country with dignity as Ambassador to the United Nations agencies in Vienna, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Republic of Austria, the Kingdom of Sweden, the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Finland.

The recognition of the authority of Ms. Gherman was best displayed in her leadership of the United Nations global dialogue on strengthening capacities and building effective institutions for the implementation of the United Nations post-2015 development agenda and the subsequent adoption of the Chisinau Outcome Statement, which proved to be a valuable contribution to the new global development road map for the next 15 years. Coordinating the national efforts to deliver on the post-2015 development agenda, Ms. Gherman focused on strengthening the human rights mechanisms, women's empowerment and gender equality, as well as the promotion of Moldova-United Nations cooperation in the field of energy. Moreover, Ms. Gherman was an efficient partner for the United Nations in Moldova and in the region in the successful piloting of one of the aspects of United Nations reform — the concept of "One United Nations".

The affirmative legacy of her prolific activity for the Republic of Moldova is reflected in her country's concluding the Association Agreement and Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area with the European Union, for which Ambassador Gherman was the Chief Negotiator. She successfully led the European Union-Moldova visa dialogue that resulted in the liberalization of the visa regime for Moldovan citizens travelling to the European Union. These remarkable achievements placed Moldova on the path of reforms to further develop the standards of democracy, security, the rule of law and economic modernization.

Ms. Gherman is an expert and leader in regional and global security affairs, holding a master's degree in War Studies from King's College, University of London. She is a vocal and active promoter of peace through dialogue, justice, sustainable development and deep respect for the rule of law.

It is worth mentioning that in 2014 Ms. Gherman was selected by *The Guardian UK* to rank among the most impressive "Seven women to watch in global politics who are leading change all over the world".

In the spirit of equitable geographical representation at the United Nations, and taking into account the fact that since the foundation of the United Nations no candidate from the Eastern European region has had the honour to hold the post of Secretary-General, the Government of the Republic of Moldova believes that the next Head of the Organization should be selected among qualified candidates from this region.

Furthermore, the Government of the Republic of Moldova strongly supports the principle of gender equality in the selection of the Secretary-General of the United Nations. We are most confident that with her outstanding leadership and negotiation skills, her professional and personal qualities of high moral integrity and her dedication to furthering the goals of humanity as enriched in the Charter, Ambassador Gherman is an excellent candidate for the post of Secretary-General of the United Nations.

The Government of the Republic of Moldova would much appreciate if the Member States and the Security Council could be informed of this nomination in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 51/241 of 31 July 1997 and 69/321 of 11 September 2015, with the kind request to circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Pavel Filip
Prime Minister

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Enclosure

Curriculum vitae*

Natalia Gherman

Natalia Gherman has served for the past three years as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration of the Republic of Moldova. In June and July 2015 she was Acting Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova. Ms. Gherman is a career diplomat holding the diplomatic rank of Ambassador. Her leadership qualities and excellent negotiation skills are highly appreciated in her own country and internationally.

Ms. Gherman received her BA from the State University of the Republic of Moldova and her MA in War Studies from King's College, University of London.

Ms. Gherman began her long career in service of her country in 1991 as the Second and then First Secretary for the Department of International Organizations of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Moldova. From 1994 to 1997, she served as Counsellor and Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations Agencies in Vienna and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). From 1997 to 2001, Ms. Gherman became the Deputy Head of the Department of European Security and Political-Military Affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. She served as Minister-Counsellor of the Embassy of the Republic of Moldova in Brussels, as well as Deputy Head of the Mission of Moldova to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in 2001 and 2002.

This led to ambassadorships, first as Ambassador to the Republic of Austria and Permanent Representative to the United Nations Agencies in Vienna and to OSCE. Representing her country with dignity to OSCE in Vienna, Ms. Gherman has been a prominent contributor to the efforts of the Organization in identifying solutions to the unresolved conflicts in the OSCE area, at the same time mobilizing the potential of the OSCE community towards the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict in the Republic of Moldova in accordance with the provisions of international law. She is an expert and leader in regional and global security affairs, promoting peace through dialogue, justice, sustainable development and deep respect for the rule of law.

From 2006 to 2009, Ambassador Gherman established the diplomatic presence of her country in the Nordic region, having served as first resident Moldovan Ambassador to the Kingdom of Sweden, the Kingdom of Norway and the Republic of Finland. For her merits in promoting relations between Sweden and Moldova, the King of Sweden awarded Ms. Gherman the Royal Order of the Polar Star of the Kingdom of Sweden in the rank of Commander First Class.

As Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration from 2009 to 2013, Ms. Gherman was the Chief Negotiator on behalf of the Republic of Moldova for the Association Agreement and Deep and Comprehensive Free Trade Area with the European Union. Ambassador Gherman also successfully led the European Union-Moldova visa dialogue that resulted in the liberalization of the visa regime for Moldovan citizens travelling to the European Union. These remarkable

* Curriculum vitae are issued without formal editing.

achievements placed Moldova on the path of reforms to further develop the standards of democracy, security, the rule of law and economic modernization. For the successful negotiation of these crucial agreements, in 2014 Ms. Gherman was awarded the highest national distinction — the Order of the Republic of Moldova.

In 2013, Ms. Gherman was honoured with the dual role of Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration. As Deputy Prime Minister, her role was to coordinate the European integration process of the Republic of Moldova, including by the implementation of the European Union-Moldova agreements. Another major responsibility of Ms. Gherman was to chair the National Committee for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, where she pressed for enhanced international cooperation in investigating trafficking cases and for legal reforms to strengthen the protection of victims, in particular children.

Ms. Gherman has played a central role in adapting the migration policy of the Republic of Moldova to the needs of sustainable development of the country. She was coordinating the implementation of the pilot European Union-Moldova Mobility Partnership and actively participated in the activity of the Global Forum for Migration and Development. Under her leadership, Moldova contributed to the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, advocating for the integration of migration into the post-2015 development agenda.

She was elected Member of Parliament in 2014 and served as member of the Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Policy and European Integration until the new Government was formed in 2015, where she resumed her role as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Integration. In June and July 2015, Ms. Gherman was the Acting Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova.

The affirmative legacy of Ms. Gherman's authority on a global scale was best reflected in her leadership of the United Nations global dialogue on strengthening capacities and building effective institutions for the implementation of the United Nations post-2015 development agenda and the subsequent adoption of the Chisinau Outcome Statement, which provided a valuable input to the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals. While coordinating the national efforts to deliver on the post-2015 development agenda, Ms. Gherman focused on strengthening the human rights mechanisms, women's empowerment and the consolidation of Moldova-United Nations cooperation in the field of energy.

From 2009 onward, Ms. Gherman coordinated a wide range of projects implemented with the assistance of the United Nations in Moldova, among them institutional capacity-building as part of the reform of the public administration, confidence-building measures for the population in the areas affected by the unresolved conflict, and promoting a higher representation of women at the decision-making level. Ms. Gherman's involvement has been instrumental, both in Moldova and in the region, for ensuring efficiency in piloting one of the aspects of United Nations reform — the concept of "One United Nations".

In 2014 Ms. Gherman was selected by *The Guardian UK* to rank among the most impressive "Seven women to watch in global politics who are leading change all over the world".

She is a mother to son Mircea Gherman and the daughter of the first President of the Republic of Moldova, Mircea Snegur.

Ms. Gherman speaks Romanian, English, Russian and German.

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